

# JORDAN TIMES

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## Negotiated peace wanted in Ogaden, says de Guiringaud

PARIS, Feb. 22 (R). — The five Western powers at the United Nations Security Council are seeking a negotiated solution to the conflict in the Ogaden, French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud said yesterday. The Ogaden, mainly inhabited by ethnic Somalis, has been the centre of fighting between Ethiopian troops and Somali-backed rebels for the past eight months. Addressing a press luncheon, M. de Guiringaud said the situation called for a procedure by which the people of the Ogaden "could receive a measure of autonomy in an Ethiopian framework".

## Palestinian faction fight kills 3

TYRE, Lebanon, Feb. 22 (R). — Three Palestinian commandos were killed and six wounded in fighting between rival commando factions at a refugee camp near Tyre today, Palestinian sources said tonight. They said an officer of Fatah, the biggest Palestinian commando organisation, was among those who died in the one-hour clash. It was contained by Palestinian leaders and an investigating committee has been formed, the sources added. In volatile south Lebanon, Israeli patrols were reported to have entered villages near the border to search for Palestinian commandos.

## Technology conference is acclaimed a great success

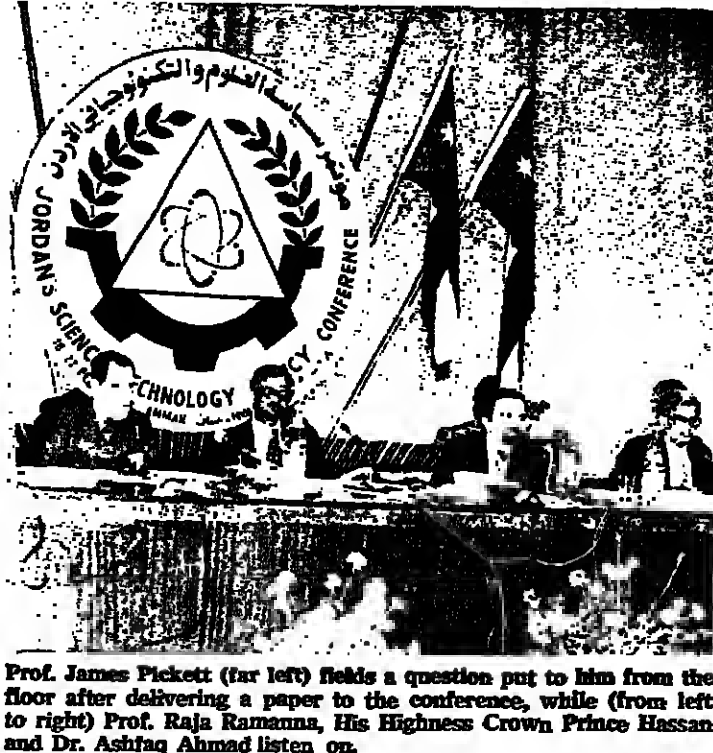
By Ian Kellas  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Feb. 22 — On its second day, Jordan's science and technology policy conference, which commenced this morning, was hailed as a "great success". The conference, which is being set up to supervise scientific activities in the Kingdom, ended on a high note, with Prince Hassan, his closing remarks, pledging Jordan to a commitment "good things in bad times". "Our children," he continued, "will not feel that we did not do our best."

mpeted with each other in acclaiming the success of the proceedings and in their praise of the Crown Prince's personal role.

"Terrible beauty"  
But the session began with a warning from Prof. James Pickett of the University of Strathclyde, of the "sheer unpredictability of the outcome of science", which he described as a "terrible beauty". Attempts to emulate the scientific achievements of the industrialised nations, without the necessary resources would lead to a "disastrous and unstable development. Great care must be taken to ensure

that technology transfer is appropriate. For any one industrial project, Prof. Pickett estimated that there would be at least 400 viable technologies available. He recommended that a special unit should be set up at the National Planning Council to appraise the range of choice. This is a job which is ignored by the conventional feasibility study which considers only one technological approach to a project. Prof. Pickett told the Jordan Times that a survey of the total range of possibilities for a whole industry would cost only about \$40,000 (Continued on p. 3)



Prof. James Pickett (far left) fields a question put to him from the floor after delivering a paper to the conference, while (from left to right) Prof. Raja Ramanna, His Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad listen on.

## Sadat: Egypt no longer recognises Kyprianou as president of Cyprus

CAIRO, Feb. 22 (AP). — President Anwar Sadat declared today that he no longer recognised Spyros Kyprianou as president of Cyprus in a move that was tantamount to a complete break in relations.

"There is no room for us to deal with dwarfs such as these," Mr. Sadat said in an emotional speech to commandos who tried to seize a pair of armed terrorists holding hostages on a plane at Larnaca airport Sunday.

"Our recognition of him as president of the republic and he hears me now... is withdrawn as of today," Mr. Sadat told his troops gathered at the War Ministry after the funeral of 15 commandos cut down by Cypriot national guardsmen. Earlier Egypt withdrew its diplomatic mission from Cyprus and asked Cypriot diplomats to leave Cairo.

The Egyptian president rejected Kyprianou's suggestion of a summit, saying he had nothing to say until "Cyprus hands over the hiring killers and then we shall start talking." Mr. Sadat said Egypt had advised Cypriot authorities that "you were on the war."

"Even though we did not take Cyprus' permission," President Sadat said, the Cypriots should not have acted the way they did. "We contacted Cyprus and they were told the plane carried some of our sons to help the Cypriot government to face this aggression and crime," Mr. Sadat said.

Mr. Sadat said the fact his commandos were not able to arrest the killers of prominent Egyptian newspaper editor Youssef Sibat "raises the question was there collusion or not?" The Egyptian president said it was his decision to use force to capture the gunmen, rather than the personal initiative of commando leader Brig. Nabil Shukry. "It was not his decision, but it was my decision," Mr. Sadat said.

Mr. Sadat said the leader of the Saiga commandos gave Cypriot authorities 90 minutes to talk the terrorists into surrendering. "He was following what went on between the control tower and the killer and it became apparent to him and to us here in Egypt also... that Cyprus was preparing two passports for the killers so they could leave Cyprus, as if they had not committed a crime," Mr. Sadat said.

At that point, he said, Brig. Shukry decided to storm the plane and carry out his orders to return with the hostages and the terrorists. The Egyptian president's account conflicted with statements Brig. Shukry made in an interview with Cairo Radio Tuesday in which he said he had "no way of knowing" about the progress of negotiations and had acted after he waited a "reasonable time" without hearing any word.

Mr. Sadat said the commandos first set off for the tiny African country of Djibouti but changed course when the gunmen ordered the plane to fly back to Cyprus.

The gunman who killed Mr. Sibat and took 11 hostages on the Cyprus airlines plane identified the Libyan leadership, whose country is reported to have offered Syria a billion dollars for new arms purchases.

In a break with the usual procedure during official visits here, Maj. Jalloud stayed on for five days after a joint communiqué was issued on the end of his official three-day visit. Diplomatic observers said it was likely that he had wanted to meet President Assad and possibly hold three-sided talks with the Syrian delegation and Soviet leaders.

Maj. Jalloud seemed to be alluding to a new arms deal when he told TASS news agency before leaving that his talks here "will undoubtedly be useful to the entire Arab nation in the struggle against imperialism and Zionism."

Despite speculation that the time might be right for a new Kremlin initiative in the Middle East, Mr. Assad's visit appeared to have produced no change in the known Soviet position, observers said.



President Anwar Sadat gives his speech in Cairo Wednesday, at the funeral of the 15 Egyptians killed in the Larnaca airport raid. High ranking officers are seen sitting behind him. (AP wirephoto)

ified themselves as Palestinians and Mr. Sadat warned in his speech that "the Palestinians must know before all the Arabs that Egypt shall respond to every blow with 10 blows." "Egypt will crush these pygmies whatever it costs," Mr. Sadat said.

Asked by a reporter after the speech if Egypt would again send commandos in a similar situation, Mr. Sadat said, "whatever tries to commit anything against Egypt, whatever his nationality, we shall be after him... even to the end of the world."

Before meeting with the commandos, Mr. Sadat led some 10,000 mourners in an emotional state funeral for the commandos who died in the raid. Anti-Palestinian slogans were shouted by the crowds: "Slayer of the Palestinians," "No more Palestinians," and "Yasser Arafat, round up your men from the cabarets."

Mr. Sadat and other top government officials walked solemnly arm-in-arm behind three closed ambulances carrying the coffins of the dead commandos, from a mosque to the pyramid Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

PLO commandos fought alongside Cypriots?

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 (AP). — A elite, 12-man squad of Palestine Liberation Organization commandos fought alongside Cypriot troops Sunday night in their battle with Egyptian commandos who were trying to free hostages at Larnaca airport, the Washington Post reported today.

In a dispatch from Nicosia, the newspaper quoted unnamed well-informed sources and witnesses as saying the PLO team wore civilian clothes and carried Soviet-made AK47 automatic rifles.

It said the Palestinians' exact role in battle and the number of casualties they may have inflicted on the Egyptians was not immediately clear.

The Post quoted an unidentified Cypriot government spokesman as saying he had no knowledge of any PLO participation in the airport battle. And it said Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou told reporters that "the only PLO men who came to Cyprus at the request of the government, were a delegation sent on (PLO leader Yasser) Arafat's instructions in order to help convince the culprits to surrender."

But the Post said "reliable diplomatic sources" in Nicosia reported that the guerrilla squad, headed by Mr. Arafat's security chief, travelled to Cyprus abroad a Cyprus Airlines plane that had brought two official PLO representatives from Beirut, Lebanon.

Both Mr. Brezhnev and Mr. Assad made speeches last night, condemning President Anwar Sadat's overtures to Israel.

But the Soviet leader only repeated Moscow's longstanding call for a return to the Geneva peace conference, while Mr. Assad, in what diplomats saw as a somewhat non-committal speech, called for a settlement on the basis of United Nations resolutions. He made no mention of the Geneva parity, however.

TASS said their discussions covered a wide range of questions concerning Soviet-Syrian cooperation. Main focus of attention, it said, was the search for a comprehensive and just settlement in the Middle East.

The atmosphere at the talks, attended also by Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin and the Kremlin's economic aid chief, Mr. Samyon Skachov, was described as friendly.

## Jordan favoured as site for inter-Arab centre

By Ian Kellas  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Feb. 22 — Jordan is well placed to be the site of an inter-Arab institution to develop "development administration," a Jordan Times editorial said today.

This information was revealed to the Jordan Times yesterday by Dr. Youssef Al-Sayigh, Adviser to the Kuwait Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development.

Dr. Sayigh did not elaborate on the nature of the institution, which would, if approved, be sponsored by the Arab Fund.

He said that Jordan was, in opinion, the "strongest" candidate among a short list of

three countries competing to be host to the institution. A meeting of the board of the Arab Fund which will take place on April 22 this year is expected to decide whether or not to go ahead with the project.

Jordan is also a candidate for a second management training centre which is being considered by the Arab Fund. Dr. Sayigh, who during the science and technology policy conference here made an appeal for special consideration to be given to the "little man" in the race for economic growth, explained to the Jordan Times that the fund's interests were as much for social as for economic development.

## Goldmann slams Israeli negativism

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb. 22 (AP). — Former President of the International Zionist Congress Nahum Goldmann gave a speech during the 29th Zionist Conference in Jerusalem in which he said, "I am more worried about the existence of the Jewish people now than at any time in the past, even during the Nazi era, which was the most difficult period in the history of the Jewish people."

"We are no longer subject to the danger of being slaughtered, like millions of Jews, or persecuted, but due to our negativism we have left the new generation at a total loss," he added.

"I do not believe it is possible that we shall witness another massacre, but the Jewish problem is still far from being settled. The status of Jews in the world is highly respected but it is still complicated," he said.

Although he is 82, Mr. Goldmann gave a highly spirited speech, calling on Israel to become "a spiritual centre and a model for International Zionism" and added that this might be the last conference he attends.

He pointed out that a declaration of independence and the establishment of a government do not mark the start of a state's history, which really begins when the state wins acceptance for its existence.

## Dayan defeats opposition demand that he resign

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb. 22 (AP). — Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan defeated a demand by the parliamentary opposition today that he resign because he disclosed Israel was selling arms to Ethiopia.

Mr. Dayan was accused by Labour Party member Yosef Sarid of causing "irreparable damage to our security interests in the Horn of Africa."

Mr. Sarid refused to go into details, but added "if the details were made known every Israeli would be shocked."

Officials confirmed that Ethiopia had expelled the Israelis administering the military aid programme following Mr. Dayan's disclosures in a Swiss television interview. They declined to say how many Israelis were there.

Israel secretly supported Ethiopia in its war against Somalia in the southern Ogaden region and against Eritrean rebels in the north, hoping to maintain its last foothold in the strategic horn. Officials say an Eritrean victory would put the whole Red Sea coast — a vital Israeli shipping lane — in the hands of radical Arabs.

Mr. Dayan's ruling Likud coalition mustered an easy majority to defeat the motions for his resignation off the agenda. But the affair underscored anew the cracks in the coalition, which have become evident over the separate issue of Jewish settlement in occupied Arab land.

Co-sponsoring the motion with Sarid was Akiva Nof of the Democratic Movement for Change, a Likud partner. Although denied permission to address the house, Nof defied coalition discipline to abstain on the motion.

## AIO military electronics plant to be set up in Saudi Arabia

ABU DHABI, Feb. 22 (R). — Four Arab countries last night decided at a meeting here to establish a joint company for the production of military electronic equipment in Saudi Arabia.

A press statement, on the one-day conference, carried by the Emirates News Agency, gave no further details of the proposed venture by the Arab Industries Organisation (AIO), which groups Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Qatar.

AIO's higher committee, which comprises the defence ministers of the four member-states, also directed the board of directors to undertake studies for further joint projects "that will serve the armed forces of the member-states" the statement said.

The committee heard progress reports on the implementation of joint projects for arms production now under execution, it added.

These included the production of American jeep military vehicles and Swing-fire anti-tank missiles and British Lynx helicopters, the statement said.

## Committee for defence of Esmail asks U.S. aide be allowed to testify

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 (AP). — A private defence committee of American citizens arrested in Israel has petitioned the State Department to allow an American diplomat to testify for the defence.

The National Committee to End the Human Rights of Esmail said consular officer Mark Davidson, at the U.S. embassy in Israel, can give evidence to support Esmail's claim that he was beaten and otherwise mistreated by Israeli police during interrogation.

Esmail, a graduate student at Michigan State University charged with membership in a radical Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and undergoing "terrorist training" in Libya. Esmail is of Palestinian descent.

The defence committee, based in East Lansing, Michigan, asking the State Department permit Mr. Davidson to testify at a hearing to challenge the admission of any incriminating statements signed by Mr. Esmail "under physical or psychological coercion."

Mr. Davidson saw Esmail in four days after his arrest at Dec. 21. A State Department official in the defence committee's petition is under review.

A committee spokesman, Mr.

Richard Green, said money is being raised to send witnesses and observers to Esmail's upcoming trial.

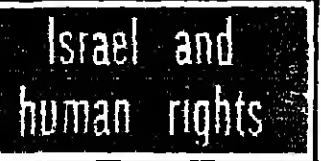
Mr. Green said the charge that Mr. Esmail trained in Libya in August 1976 can be disproved by a number of Mr. Esmail's friends and students who saw or spoke with him in the United States during that month.

The FBI has not commented except to say that "information developed in the United States which might indicate a threat of loss of life or terrorist activity in another country would be furnished to that country."

The committee says it now has offices in a dozen cities around the United States including Los Angeles, Detroit, Washington, New York and Boston.

In Tel Aviv, U.S. Consul James Kerr said that Mr. Esmail's lawyer, Felicia Langer, has asked the embassy that Mr. Davidson be allowed to testify. He said the question is whether Mr. Davidson can give a sworn deposition or whether he would have to appear in court and be subject to cross examination.

The latter would require Mr. Davidson to waive diplomatic immunity, Mr. Kerr said.



## Dr. Owen due here Saturday

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA). — The British Foreign Secretary Dr. David Owen is due here on Saturday for a two-day visit. During the visit Dr. Owen will hold talks with senior government officials on the latest Middle East developments.

## Atherton in Cairo

CAIRO, Feb. 22 (Agencies). — U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Alfred Atherton arrived in Cairo from Tel Aviv today for Middle East peace talks with Egyptian leaders.

His two days of consultations with Israeli officials have given little new advance to the peace process.

Mr. Atherton has resumed his shuttle diplomacy between the Israeli and Egyptian capitals following President Anwar Sadat's visit to Washington recently for talks with President Carter.

The envoy told reporters that President Carter has pledged the U.S. would double its efforts to reach a settlement and "I am here to carry out this pledge."

Mr. Atherton told reporters before leaving Tel Aviv that he found Israel "determined to keep this process going," but said his shuttle mission might last "for days or possibly even weeks" before direct political talks could reopen.

Mr. Atherton met Tuesday with Prime Minister Menachem Begin, Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Defence Minister Ezer Weizman, and spent today morning reviewing the Israeli positions with U.S. embassy staff.



## JORDAN TIMES

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## The greatest need remains untouched

The last five days of discussion at the national science and technology policy conference have only highlighted once again the obvious fact that Jordan's main wealth is its pool of educated and skilled citizens. Any coherent national science policy that comes out of the conference will be, basically, a more systematic way of organising Jordan's technical cadres and giving them the institutional support to carry out their job more efficiently, and more in line with national economic and social development goals.

But we cannot see this fine effort this week draw to a conclusion without putting in our two fils worth of comment on a subject that we suggest is now possibly the single biggest drag on development efforts in Jordan and other developing countries. This is the matter of an over-sized, under-organised, over-staffed and under-efficient state bureaucracy.

For example, it would be an exercise in Orwellian absurdity if we were to come up with a really dynamic national science policy and then were to implement this policy by trying to attract back to Jordan scientists who would have to put up with the irritating silliness that sometimes requires months and months for a job application to be approved by the various government departments. Similarly, it would also be only a short-term palliative if we were to set up the scientific community of the country in its own efficient arena while the rest of the government bureaucracy grinds away slowly in its own inertia.

In this area, Jordan can be a pace-setter for the Arab World and the developing world in general if it would seize this opportunity to introduce scientific principles of management, organisation and administration throughout the entire state structure, to give the scientists, and everyone else, the proper structural support to carry out their job properly.

## ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Under the heading "Waiting so Long", AL RAI Wednesday said that the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, Alfred Atherton, may have been right in not making any statement after his two-hour-long meeting with Moshe Dayan, because if the Israeli cabinet members are not yet agreed on a definite stand towards the settlement issue, how and when will they agree on the question of withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories or recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians -- the two principal Arab demands for a just and a lasting peace in the Middle East?

The newspaper thinks, however, that despite the wave of pessimism in the area, the U.S. seems determined to go ahead until it makes some sort of progress that helps keep the momentum of negotiations alive... even without reaching a declaration of principles that might help broaden the basis of negotiations, by bringing in some other parties at the appropriate time. The Middle East, Al Rai feels, will witness a long spell of no-war, no-peace while Mr. Atherton continues making his shuttle trips to the capitals of the area.

Commenting on Syrian President Hafez Assad's current visit to the Soviet Union, AL DUSTOUR expects good results of what it described his amicable discussions with the Kremlin leaders. Such positive results will take the form of continued and firm support by the Soviet Union, not only for Syria, but for all the Arabs as well.

The newspaper says President Assad's talks in Moscow are not "axial" in their motives and objectives, but are of a pan-Arab nature. And therefore their success would be in the interest of the Arabs as a whole.

## Photographers wanted

The Jordan Times wants to see the work of photographers with black and white prints of any and all scenes in Jordan, either individual pictures or collections of photo-stories on a single theme. We are interested in publishing individual photos or photo-stories on a regular basis, and we'd like to see the work of local photographers, both Jordanians and non-Jordanians alike.

If you have photos to show, or would like to do some feature photos for the Jordan Times, please contact Mr. Khouri at the Jordan Times offices any day between 9:00 and 12:00 a.m. and between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m. to make an appointment.



Regional representative says in lecture

## Jordan's population provides fertile ground for United Nations agency's activities

By Virginia Buchanan  
 Special to the Jordan Times

A village mother-and-child-care clinic, a street number plaque on Jabal Amman, a course in population by a visiting professor at the University of Jordan -- these are all part of the diverse projects described to members of the Rotary Club here yesterday by the Regional Coordinator and Representative of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), Dr. A. Majeed Khan.

Dr. Khan said his organisation is "the consequence of the growing multi-national concern about the well-being of national populations."

"Here in Jordan, the government's National Planning Council is the channel through which requests for assistance are made. Then the U.N. specialised agencies provide assistance to clarify issues and draw up projects. Once the project is prepared, then we are 'the Fund'."

Jordan, for instance, has done much from the intellectual point of view, from the academics, and from those who have had an enormous amount of field experience in human welfare, to improve the social well-being of its population, he said.

"But a certain set of indicators has been suggested in order to establish whether the people are enjoying -- and to what degree -- the social wealth. These are health, education, environment, and quality of working life, time and leisure available to employees, command of goods and services, physical environment, personal safety and administration of justice, social opportunity and participation. These indicators can show where the people of a country stand."

"You can't change until you know what to change. Is it possible? And are there means to do it? If 80 per cent of a population is illiterate, for example, the government says let's get it to 100 per cent. The planner says HOW? Does the country have the resources? Besides, development must also mean the development of the psychology of the people. In fact, development of the people starts with the change of attitudes," Dr. Khan said.

The UNFPA, as the Fund is called, is contributed to by 80 countries, including Jordan, and is assisting projects and developments in 102 countries, also including Jordan. In 1969, the Fund had a budget of \$5 million. This year it is \$106 million.

"This means that not only has



Dr. A. Majeed Khan

the fastest growth of any multi-national, multi-funding organisation," Dr. Khan said. "This means that not only has the UNFPA been highly effective in providing a response to the growing national population needs, but is efficiently managed so that most of the contributor's dollars are spent directly in programme efforts."

"The UNFPA started assisting in the Arab World in 1970, where its annual expenditure grew from roughly \$1.1 million in 1971 to \$15 million today. The Arab League, in a ministerial conference, adopted a resolution drawing member states' attention to their population needs and urged the Arab governments to increase their contributions to the Fund. To date, 12 Arab League members (including Jordan) have pledged or placed contributions to the Fund, and projects are going on in all these countries."

### Jordan's success

"Jordan has a unique background," Mr. Khan said. "An economist has recently observed that Jordan has, in the past 25 years, transformed from a semi-primitive society to a consumer-and-service-oriented society without passing through the

the private-public effort," he said.

Interest and concern about the people have grown in this country. UNFPA assistance was first provided Jordan for a fertility survey in 1971. In 1972, the Fund was invited to assist in the training of statisticians who would be working in various capacities of national accounts, national development in the NPC, and work with the Central Bureau of Statistics. In 1973, it assisted in providing the country with a system of street names and house numbers.

In 1975, the government sought further assistance for a wide range of population-related activities. The negotiations that ensued resulted in the government and UNFPA signing a programme agreement covering a four-year period during which UNFPA would provide approximately \$2.5 million in project assistance covering personnel training, provision of equipment and supplies, and experts. The projects so far undertaken within this agreement are: carrying out a study of population growth and movement in Jordan; establishing demographic studies at the University of Jordan; setting up maternal and child health centres; and expansion of the government's statistical training centre.

Dr. Khan appealed to leaders in business, social and professional fields to continue to raise the social consciousness by multiplicity of interests, and then, just as important, to sustain it.

"The well-being of the people must be secured as Jordan attains greater wealth. The pattern is first to build capacity in the country; next, provide an activity in experience; third, import the know-how and accessories to perform the skill; and finally to train the man to take over."

Dr. Khan, who came as Regional Coordinator and Representative of the UNFPA three months ago, is from Bangladesh. He brings a rich background to his job. Having received his doctorate in sociology from the University of Minnesota, with a specialisation in population implications of social and economic development, he has held senior U.N. posts in Sri Lanka, New York, Bangladesh, and 12 Asian countries.

He headed the Dept of Social work at Rajshahi University in Bangladesh, was guest professor at the University of Stockholm, Sweden, and was a consultant for UNESCO in mass communications of family planning. He is the author of 30 publications.

## 7-Up crushed



When this truck loaded with crates of soft drinks ran down a flight of steps from Jabal Luvabdeh to Salt Road the result was hundreds of crushed 7-Up bottles competing for the road. The truck's cab was buckled under by the force of the impact. The driver was unhurt. He was chatting to a shopowner when his truck ran away from its parked position, on a road above the steps. (JT photo)

## Abu Odeh briefs Australian official on peace moves

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA). — Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh today acquainted leader of the Labour Party and President of the Trade Union in Australia Bob Hawke on Jordan's stand towards the Middle East crisis and efforts being made to find out a peace settlement vis a vis the Israeli uncompromising attitude which hindered peace efforts.

Mr. Abu Odeh underlined the need for the Palestinians to take part in the making of a just and lasting peace and to exercise their own national identity and rights on their own homeland.

## Employment Department will find jobs for labourers

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA). — The Employment Department of the Ministry of Labour is ready to help Jordanian labourers find suitable jobs, Minister of Labour Issam Al Ajlouni said today.

Such a measure is aimed at organising employment and emigration of Jordanian labourers as well as organising the employment of foreign workers.

Mr. Ajlouni was speaking when he made an inspection visit of the employment department here today.

The department's figures show that about 300 Jordanians obtained, through the department, visas for work in Saudi Arabia, besides 42 others who are seeking work in Jordan.

## UPITN board meets in Aqaba

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JT). — The Board of Directors of the London based UPITN Television-newsfilm agency arrived in Amman last night and flew to Aqaba today for two days of board meetings.

UPITN includes amongst its major shareholders the American news agency United Press International and British Independent Television News which supplies international and national news programmes for all Britain's commercial television stations.

### ASPEN INSTITUTE

We wish to correct the name of the Aspen Institute in New York which we reported in National News Roundup on Wednesday as the Aspen Institute of Islamic Studies.

The organisation is, in fact, the Aspen Institute of Humanistic Studies. Our error was due to the erroneous naming of the institute in an Arabic language report distributed by the Jordan News Agency which we translated.

## Jordan, Egypt aim to boost bilateral trade

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA). — Jordanian-Egyptian talks for promoting trade cooperation began at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce here today.

Discussions took up expansion of the trade protocol concluded between the two countries, with the aim of increasing bulk of the trade exchanges and overcoming obstacles facing the import and export process between the two countries -- difficulties that emerged during application of the protocol last year, mainly the problem of two prices for one item of production when exported from Egypt to Jordan.

Jordan's delegation to the talks was headed by Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Finance Dr. Hashem Dabbas, and the Egyptian by Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce Youssef Salah Ayman (not Abbadi as stated yesterday), who arrived in Amman late last night at the head of the Egyptian team.

### WANTED

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## WHAT'S GOING ON

### Art Exhibit

The British Council, in cooperation with the Department of Culture and Art, presents an exhibition of works by four young Jordanian artists. The exhibition continues today and runs through Friday 24th.

### NEW ARABIC COURSES

The YWCA Vocational Training Centre announces the opening of new Arabic courses for advanced and beginner students.

If interested, please get in touch with YWCA, Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle, tel. 41793.

Registration begins now, until the Feb. 27th.

### DELUXE FLAT FOR RENT

A luxuriously furnished three bedroom, three bathroom flat with parlor, living room, dining room, modern Italian kitchen, a lift, central heating and beautifully situated on

Jabal Amman, Fifth Circle.

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# Technology conference is acclaimed a great success

(Continued from p.1)

fraction of the cost of a factory.

**Final report**  
Following Prof. Pickett's presentation, the two days of debates in their sessions, the meeting proceeded to discuss the final report.

There are no very concrete results in the report, but it is only to be expected. The deliberations of the conference are summarised in general terms. Their detailed discussion will be a lengthy process.

Dealing with the question of organisational structure, the report suggests that Jordan ought to adopt a system of scientific development, the report cautions that a foreign model would be unsuitable here. It "notes" experiences of Korea, Japan, the U.S., India, Kuwait, the U.K., but stresses that a better environment for scientific development must be built.

Scientists, planners and businessmen must all be involved in scientific policy-making. Research can usefully be organised on the contract system.

The report recommends.

The "research association" arrangement is specially mentioned. This is basically a way of joining government and industry in a common research effort linked to the particular needs of a certain sector of the economy.

## New Laws

The report envisages new legislation to "ensure adequate financial support for (scientific) activities and to regulate matters relating to standards, codes, quality control, patents, copyright, licensing, royalties, incentives and remuneration as well as matters pertaining to the transfer of technology".

Turning to priorities, the report mentions that both short and long term research programmes must be encouraged. The debate, which preoccupied the conference for much of the time, between basic and applied science, was never likely to come to a clear conclusion. In general, though, it was agreed that both are necessary in some measure but that both ought to be attuned to the economic and social needs of the country.

A certain consensus, however, had begun to emerge on the

topics of research on which the Arab countries could best concentrate. Several of the different bodies proposed for scientific cooperation agreed that solar energy research should be given priority. Also high on the list were agriculture and defence.

## Manpower management

The conference "welcomed the proposal to establish an Arab fund for scientific and technological development".

Attention is also paid in the report to the problems of manpower management. It recognises the need to emphasise vocational training and to "inculcate habits of logical and scientific thinking in the early stages of school education". The greater participation of women in the work force should be encouraged, the report states.

The main proposals for dealing with the brain drain are that a better environment should be created for scientists here, and that there should be more coming and going by scientists between the developed and the developing nations. It was felt that greater care should be taken in placing Jordanian students in universities abroad.

## A genuine success

As the conference drew to a close today, the consensus among the 200 participants from Jordan and the 70 guests from abroad seemed to be that it had been genuinely useful. "I have been to conferences where there has been nothing but hot air, but this one really got down to business", was a not untypical comment from one foreign delegate.

Apart from anything else it will probably prove to have been a useful public relations exercise for the country.

Asked for his reactions to the conference, Dr. Zaki Ayoubi, a representative both of the private sector and of the University of Jordan told the Jordan Times: "We did really get some good ideas". He mentioned the industrial research associations, a concept which his colleagues had come across for the first time during their preparation for the conference.

But warning that a verdict on the meeting was still premature, Dr. Ayoubi said: "Now the challenge is just beginning... the challenge of follow-up".

# National News Roundup

## New forest project launched by

### Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA). — The launching of a new forest on the outskirts of Amman will take place tomorrow, Friday, under the patronage of His Highness Crown Prince Hassan the Viceroy and Princess Sarvath. The project, which is to be called The Yajouz Forest for Children, is close to the Sports City and is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Children Club and the Ministry of Agriculture. At the celebration tomorrow, part of the allocated land of 250 dunums will be planted with trees, and the rest will be planted on similar occasions over the next few years. The Ministry of Agriculture has supplied the children's club with three thousand saplings to be planted initially in an area of 15 dunums. During the last two years, the club has planted trees on a plot, near the town of Naour, which later came to be called the Children's Forest. Scouts and girl guides of the Amman district will take part in the planting tomorrow.

## Street to commemorate Yacoub Uweiss

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA). — The Amman Municipal Council today decided to name one of the main streets of the capital after the late Yacoub Uweiss, former Jordanian ambassador to Romania who died recently of a heart attack.

## Prices official to visit Oman

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA). — The Cabinet today decided to send Director of Quality and Prices at the Ministry of Supply, Youssef Al Anani, to the Omani Sultanate to discuss the question of buying fresh fish for local consumption in Jordan.

## New finance director appointed

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA). — Finance Minister, Dr. Mohammad Dabbas, has appointed Issam Al Muhaisen as Director of the Amman Governorate Finance Department as from March 1, 1978. Mr. Al Muhaisen succeeds the late Nazmi Al Battikhi who died several weeks ago.

## Small loan for southern village

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA). — The Municipal and Rural Loans Fund has approved a JD 13,000 loan for the Najel village council, of the Ma'an governorate, for completion of an electrical project for the village.

## Iraqi ambassador goes home

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA). — The former Iraqi Ambassador Khaled, Makki Al Hashemi left here this evening for Baghdad after termination of his mission in Jordan and his transfer to another position at the Iraqi Foreign Ministry. Expressing good wishes for Jordan, he thanked Jordanian officials and people for their cooperation in promoting Iraqi-Jordanian brotherly relations. Mr. Al Hashemi stressed his country's desire to advance relations with Jordan, particularly in the fields of transport, transit and road building.

## New traffic regulations committee formed

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA). — A new committee from the public security department and a number of ministries has been formed to work out new traffic regulations. The committee will fix speed limits, determine weights of vehicles using various roads in the Kingdom and will introduce a plan for operating radar-equipped patrol cars to monitor speed. The formation of the committee was decided at a meeting held at the Public Security Department today attended by the ministers of interior, municipal and rural affairs and public works as well as the director of the public security department.

## Jordan to join health and education conference

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA). — Jordan is to participate in the Middle East regional conference on health and education to be held in Tehran on Feb. 26. The five day conference sponsored by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and UNESCO will be dedicated to the discussion of subjects connected with systems of education and education planning in Middle Eastern countries and means of improving them. Jordan will be represented by the Minister of Education Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali and the acting Minister of Health Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh.

## T.V., radio team to visit Moscow

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA). — The programme directors at Radio Jordan and Jordan Television are to pay a week-long visit to Moscow soon to become acquainted with methods of preparation of programmes and to explore ways to improve cooperation between the two countries in the field of radio and television broadcasting.

## Jordan's exports to Saudi increased by 93 per cent

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA). — Jordan's exports to Saudi Arabia increased by 93 per cent in October 1977 over figures for the same month in 1976. The value of goods exported in October last year was JD 1,388,000 while October 1976 figures reached only JD 692,000. Exports included vegetables, fruit, cigarettes, medicine and plastics. The main Jordanian import from Saudi Arabia is crude oil, and last October's imports amounted to JD 3,200,000 as compared to JD 516,000 in October 1976, indicating an increase of 54 per cent.

## Amman-Jarash road closed

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA). — It was announced today, that the road to Jarash across the old bridge was closed due to the rise of the water level behind the King Talal Dam. Work on the opening of another road is underway. Meanwhile the public security department announced today that the road linking Qatrania with the town of Ma'an is not quite suitable for traffic due to sand storms and poor visibility. Motorists using the main Desert Highway were advised to drive with great caution.

## Amman Stock Exchange Report

NAME OF COMPANY	Shares	Volume	Opening	Highest	Lowest	Closing	Last	Last
		traded	price	selling	selling	price	buying	selling
				price	price		bid	bid
1. Hashemite Bank	JD 1,000	1,210	1.100	1.100	1.100	1.100	—	—
2. Dar Al-Din for Development and Investment Co.	JD 1,000	275	1.250	1.250	1.200	1.200	—	—
3. Industrial, Commercial and General Bank Co.	JD 1,000	954	2.200	2.200	2.200	2.200	—	2.200
4. Arab Pharmaceutical Co.	JD 5,000	276	11.950	12.000	12.000	12.000	—	—
5. Jordan Electric Co.	JD 1,000	270	1.450	1.350	1.350	1.350	1.350	1.400
6. Jordan Cement Co.	JD 10,000	1,113	15.900	15.950	15.900	15.950	—	—
7. Jordan Textile Co.	JD 1,000	326	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	—	1.050
8. Jordan Petroleum Co.	JD 5,000	360	6.800	6.850	6.800	6.800	—	6.900
9. Phosphate Mines Co.	JD 1,000	718	2.200	2.150	2.150	2.150	—	2.200
Total volume traded Wednesday, Feb. 22, JD 5,502								

# AMMAN MARKETPLACE

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JORDAN

**BUSINESS SUPPLIES**



UAE oil minister says

# Industrial states should halt their price rises in reply to oil price freeze

RIYADH, Feb. 22 (R). — The industrialised countries should halt price rises of their manufactured goods in response to the oil price freeze, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) petroleum minister said yesterday. Dr. Mane' Said Al Oteiba, the Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, left here for home after a two-day visit during which he conferred with King Khalid and senior Saudi officials.

The minister said the industrialised world should avoid the export of its inflation to the oil countries.

He said the industrialised world was to blame for the deadlock in the so-called Nor-

th-South dialogue with developing countries and it was up to them to compromise and put forward a viable initiative as a basis for talks.

The oil-pricing policy of Saudi Arabia and the UAE has reflected the two countries' se-

nse of responsibility towards the developing countries, which are among the countries to be harmed every time there is the slightest oil price increase," he added.

He said the stock-piling of oil was an unnecessary and co-

sistently operation and commented: "It is much better to keep the oil in its original fields while establishing relations based on friendship, mutual respect, and common interest between the consuming and oil producing countries."

## U.S. coal industry talks resume under threat of presidential intervention

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 (R). — Coal industry negotiators returned to the bargaining table here today with the threat of direct presidential interven-

tions lending incentive to bring an end to the nation's longest coal strike.

Leaders of the Bituminous Coal Operators Association

(BCOA) agreed last night to resume negotiations with the United Mine Workers (UMW) after President Carter won strong congressional endorsement for any action he desired to put an end to the strike,

now in its eleventh week. Mr. Thomas O'Neill, Speaker of the House of Representatives, said Congress would respond immediately if Mr. Carter sought its approval for an order forcing miners and management to abide by mandatory arbitration.

He also said the House of Representatives would probably back Mr. Carter if he ordered troops to seize the mines.

But Mr. O'Neill, speaking to reporters after talks with the president at the White House, said he did not believe legislation would be necessary unless "a dire emergency" arose.

A Democratic Representative Thomas Foley said both workers and management would probably favour the seizure of the mines as the miners could continue to press for their demands and the management would be reassured that its equipment would be protected, he said. The mines were last seized in 1946 by President Truman.

The chance of a settlement remains uncertain though, despite White House hopes that an independent agreement reached between the mine workers and the country's 15th largest coal producer, the Pittsburgh and Midway Coal Company, could form a blueprint for an industry-wide agreement.

Talks between the United Mine Workers union and the coal industry broke down last week.

But tentative agreement was reached Tuesday by the union and the Pittsburgh and Midway Coal Company.

White House Press Secretary Jody Powell said President Carter had not decided whether to press that settlement as a model for an overall agreement. However, administration officials indicated that they would prefer this solution to direct intervention.

## Algeria's Boumedienne inaugurates gas liquefaction plant

ALGIERS, Feb. 22 (R). — Algerian President Houari Boumedienne yesterday inaugurated a natural gas liquefaction plant which will supply exports to the United States and Western Europe.

The plant is one of six being built at Arzew, 400 kms. west of Algiers.

Algerian experts estimate that the country will be exporting 700 billion cubic metres of gas annually during the next decade.

President Boumedienne said Algeria's industrial effort was aimed at gaining access to international markets on its own terms.

The achievements of the policy would improve Algeria's credit-rating and give it "the means to find the necessary credits for development while maintaining the state's financial independence," he added.

## Germans attribute peaceful labour relations to the consensus attitude

Editor's note: Following is the third part in a four part series of articles from the Financial Times describing the role of trade unions in setting wage levels in different countries. This article covers West Germany. German labour relations are based on regular consultations between government and workers to reach consensus on economic means and aims. As a result German wage talks take on a relatively peaceful nature.

By Darrell Delamaide

BONN, (F.T.) — German industrial relations are based on the concept of "concerted action" — as is most else in German society. The idea is that the government and the "wage partners" — employees and workers — should consult routinely to achieve a consensus how best to keep the economy healthy and growing while fulfilling the special goals of each sector.

Concerted action was institutionalised by a law in 1967, and meetings take place regularly — at least until recently. The unions have boycotted Concerted Action since last summer because the German Industry Federation (BDI) led a constitutional court challenge against the Co-Determination (Mitbestimmung) Law passed in 1976. The new law, the fruit of a long struggle by the unions, calls for almost equal representation of workers on the supervisory boards of large companies.

Decisions by consensus

Board level co-determination has been in effect in the coal and steel industry since 1951, and in other industry to a limited extent since 1962. But

workers also have a strong voice in day-to-day working conditions through the "works council" (Betriebsrat), set up by law in any firm employing more than five people. Wage negotiations themselves are separate from all this, so that in theory at least the adversarial relationship between labour and management is preserved in the matter of wages. It is obvious, though, that wage talks in the context of all the institutionalised consulting and co-determining are something different to the tooth and claw battles usual in some other countries.

The negligible strike rate in Germany is the product of this consensus attitude and a legend in its own time.

The size and structure of the unions and the forum of wage negotiations also go a long way to explaining the relative peacefulness of wage talks.

The West German work force is put at about 21 million people. Of these, 8.7 million are organised, with 7.2 million belonging to the 16 large trade unions comprising the German Trade Union Federation (DGB). Wage talks are conducted by these large unions on a regional basis. Corresponding regional employ-

## West Germany's firemen are not all men



Fire brigades in West Germany are manned, if that is the right word, by volunteers in all but the major cities. Except, that is, that many firemen are women. They certainly made Fire Prevention Week an eye-catcher recently, distributing millions of brochures printed free of charge by insurance companies. (Dad photo)

## U.N. increases number of top-paid positions

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 22 (AP). — Despite U.S. pleas for belt-tightening, the United Nations is expanding its roster of top-salaried positions to bring to 75 the number of U.N. officials making more than \$75,000 a year.

Six assistant secretaries-general have just been elevated to undersecretaries-general, increasing the quota of second highest U.N. posts to 32. The promotions, called "reclassifications" here, mean a salary increase of about \$10,000 — from \$76,000 to \$86,000.

Also to be named in the next few weeks is a "super" undersecretary-general who would oversee all the economic programmes of the world organisation. His salary: \$99,350. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim earns more than \$110,650 a year exclusive of allowances and benefits.

All told, the latest round of promotions and hiring would bring to 35 the number of U.N. officials earning in excess of \$85,000 a year.

In contrast, U.S. cabinet officers are paid \$60,000 a year and their West German coun-

terparts, the highest paid cabinet officers in the world today, \$78,300. France pays its government ministers \$53,250, Sweden \$36,000 and Japan \$53,033.

The United States, which pays 25 per cent of the U.N. budget, has consistently opposed promotions and new hiring in the upper echelon categories of the U.N. system's more than 40,000 employees who are the highest paid civil servants in the world.

Democratic Representative Lester I. Wolff, serving on the U.S. delegation to the General Assembly last year, warned that at the United States would consider voting against future U.N. budgets unless salaries of U.N. personnel were kept "in line".

A Soviet representative also complained of "uncontrolled and entirely unjustified expenditures of the U.N. staff." The Soviet Union is the second largest U.N. contributor, paying 13.54 per cent.

Higher salaries helped push the 1978-79 U.N. budget to nearly one billion dollars, a 32 per cent increase over the preceding two-year period.

## People in the News

Hope, Wayne win People's Choice awards

LOS ANGELES, California, (AP). — Perennials Bob Hope and John Wayne won People's Choice awards for the fourth straight year while actresses Carol Burnett, Mary Tyler Moore and Barbara Streisand shared the spotlight in the women's categories. Results of the nationwide survey of viewers over 12 years old, conducted by the Toledo, Ohio-based National Family Opinion, Inc., were announced during the nationally televised 1977 People's Choice awards show Monday night.

Mr. Hope won the all-round male entertainer award and Mr. Wayne outpolled Robert Redford and Burt Reynolds for the favourite movie actor prize. James Garner of the television series, The Rockford Files, was named favourite male T.V. performer.

Sorry, you must have the wrong address

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP). — The case of the mailed corpse has been solved. The Independent news agency "Noticias Argentinas" reported on Tuesday that bus company employees inspecting unclaimed packages at their terminal in Cordoba discovered a neatly wrapped corpse. Police, suspecting foul play, began an investigation. The package was destined for Salta, a city in the north. But neither the Salta address or the address of the sender existed, it said. On Friday, police in Salta announced that the corpse was not really a corpse but the mummy of an Inca Indian. Police said that a mixup regarding the addresses on the package was to blame. Francisco Emilio Sola, well-known in Salta for his studies of indigenous cultures, presented himself to Salta police after reading about the discovery of the corpse. Mr. Sola said he wrapped the mummy and sent it to Leon Buckley, an expert in archeology in Cordoba, so he could authenticate its age. But the mummy disappeared.

Liz Taylor decides to become U.S. citizen

LOS ANGELES, (R). — British-born actress Elizabeth Taylor says she has finally decided to become a U.S. citizen. "I have already applied for my naturalisation papers," she told reporters this week. "I plan on remaining in America for the rest of my life." She is married to Virginia farmer John Warner, who is running for the U.S. Senate. Miss Taylor, 45, said she made the decision long before her husband announced his plans to run for the Republican Party. She said her main plans were living on her farm and looking after her large family.

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON, Feb. 22 (R). — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies against the dollar at the close of inter-bank trading on the London foreign exchange market today. Tourist rates will differ from those quoted below.

One sterling	1.9478/84	U.S. dollars
One dollar	2.0375/80	Dutch guilders
	2.1950/75	Swiss francs
	1.8240/70	Belgian francs
	31.75/81	French francs
	4.8050/80	Italian lire
	853.00/50	Japanese yen
	238.70/90	

## LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Jordanian fils	Buying/selling
U.S. dollar	310.00/312.00
U.K. sterling	605.00/608.00
W. German mark	152.00/152.90
Swiss franc	169.20/170.10
French franc	64.50/64.90
Italian lire (for every 100)	36.30/36.50
Japanese yen (for every 100)	130.10/130.90
Dutch guilder	141.10/141.90
Belgian franc (for every ten)	97.20/97.90
Swedish crown	67.10/67.50

## LONDON MARKET REPORT

Stock prices closed lower in light and nervous trading Wednesday, dealers said, and at 15:00 hrs. the F.T. index was down 5.7 at 448.9.

Equities lost ground in early trading following news GKN's proposed takeover of Sachs had been disallowed by the German supreme court and on fears of an early general election. Some prices closed above lowest levels on technical considerations, dealers said.

Bonds closed steady to 3/8 lower. Gold shares turned easier after holding steady initially while U.S. issues firmed and Canadians were mixed.

Guest Keen fell 13p to 266p after falling 19p initially. Other industrial issues eased in sympathy, with Lucas, Associated Portland, Fisons, Glaxo, EMI, Hawker Siddeley, Vickers and Unilever between 3p and 5p lower. BOC closed 1-1/2p lower following quarterly results.

B.P. lost 8p on news it plans to close a major refinery for two months while other oil shares showed smaller falls. Stores fell by up to 4p while among easier banks Barclays was quoted 4p lower at 305p ahead of its final results, due Thursday.

Price of gold closed in London Wednesday at \$181.15/oz.



# Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RICHTER INSTITUTE

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Carry out promises you have made or you later could have a considerable amount of criticism. Be on the alert for any errors that have occurred in your writing, or reports and clear the decks for more action.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Polishing off all that work of yours is the best way to spend this day. Later take any health treatment you may need. Avoid one who could waste your valuable time and get on your nerves.

**TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** Improving your appearance could bring you more popularity now. Plan amusements that please you most. Don't neglect important work.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** Focusing your attention on your home can improve conditions there appreciably.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21)** Seek out data that has eluded you before now and then use it wisely to improve your affairs. Be careful of your credit.

**LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21)** You have to be very careful the handling of monetary affairs today or you could get in big trouble. Plan repairs to any real estate you own.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22)** Analyze the progress you've made toward your goals and know how best to speed things up. Get into this right social affair that will bring you a greatest pleasure. Avoid a spendthrift.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** You like everything to be in order around you and this is a good day to make your roundings just right. A new attitude toward mate, red one will bring better results.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** Carry through with personal aims in a most positive way and gain them now. Try to please friends more and establish more harmony.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** Show that you are conscientious citizen and gain the support of a bigwig for some project you have in mind. A credit affair can be handled well now. Avoid arguments at home.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** Study every angle of a project you have in mind and be sure you understand thoroughly. Be thorough in making your plans for short trip you want to take shortly.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 18)** Keep promises and get good results thereby. Be of greater service to mate and increase mutual happiness. Avoid one who wants to come between you.

**PISCES (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20)** Have practical talks with associates that could bring fine results for all concerned. Find the right civic outlets through which to live in prestige, too.

## PEANUTS

THE RAIN FALLS ON THE HILLS AND IN THE VALLEYS...

IT RAINS ON THE CITIES AND ON THE FIELDS

IT RAINS ON THE JUST AND THE UNJUST

AND IN MY FACE!

## ANDY GAPP

I'D A GHASTLY DREAM LAST NIGHT, SANDRA—I DREAMT I WAS THE LAST WOMAN ON EARTH

—AND THAT WASN'T THE WORST OF IT—

IT WAS THE LAST MAN!

## MUTT & JEFF

WELL, MUTT WAS DRIVING AROUND THE CORNER WHEN THIS OTHER CAR BEHIND HIM SMACKED RIGHT INTO HIM!

ARE YOU SURE MUTT PUT HIS HAND OUT TO TURN?

SURE MUTT ALWAYS PUTS HIS HAND OUT WHEN HE TURNS CORNERS!

LOOK OUT! THERE HE GOES TURNING THE CORNER AGAIN!

## THE FLINTSTONES

HERE, AT THE CRACK OF DAWN, IN THE SAME SPOT EVERY DAY.....

...MUST BE TOUGH TO BE THE EARLY BIRD

...NOT WHEN YOU'RE STILL HERE FROM THE NIGHT BEFORE!

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## GRAFFITI

IF THE DOLLAR SHRINKS ANYMORE, GEORGE WASHINGTON WILL GET A CRENCUT

## THE BETTER HALF. By Barnes



"I see you both lost the battle with Mother Nature again."

## JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CEKEH

ILETT

DELPOW

YATAPH

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: \_\_\_\_\_

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: MESSY FIFTY BANISH DECODE

Answer: Usually have to be a six-footer to be one of these—INSECTS

## GORED BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF © 1978 by Chicago Tribune

DEAR MR. GOREN:

Q.—I have read about several cheating scandals in top-level bridge. Why is it so prevalent when there is so little at stake?—M. Rogers, Beverly Hills, Calif.

(This question has been awarded the weekly prize.)

A.—First, let's make a rather bold statement—there are few games in which it is as easy to cheat as at bridge. If we take that into consideration, there have been remarkably few incidents of cheating on the international level. Naturally, if anything does happen, it attracts an awful lot of attention.

When you come right down to it, cheating occurs far more often in the average home game of rubber bridge—but it is not deliberate cheating and, if you accused anyone of it, they would deny it hotly and feel insulted. But let me illustrate some instances for you, and tell me whether you recognize any of the cases from your games.

The slow pass. You can virtually see the offender's lips moving as he counts his points. That says: "Partner, I would dearly like to open this hand, but no matter how often I count the points they still add up to only 12." This has its complement in the fast pass—"Partner, anyone can see at a glance that this hand has only 2 or 3 points."

The final bid. The partners are in an auction that might be slam-going, but one of them bids "four spades," folds up his hand and puts the cards face down on the table in front of him. That is the equivalent of saying: "I bid the fourth and final spade; bid on at your peril."

The quick double. Almost before an opponent's bid is out of his mouth, this player yells "Double." That means, "Part-

ner, we've really got them this time—don't bother to look for a better spot." The loud double indicates the same thing. These have their corollaries in the slow double and the tentative double, which say: "It's my turn but I don't know what to do. So I'll double and rely on you to take me out if you think I took the wrong action."

There are inflections in bidding. A rebid of two spades with a question mark at the end is stronger than two spades to a too that shows no interest in further action. The late George S. Kaufmann, as humorous at the bridge table as in his plays, once asked during a social game: "Can I have a review of the bidding, with the original in flections?"

Bridge is a wonderful game, and most people who play it are honest folk. If here and there we find a rotten apple in the barrel, we must get rid of it so that the enjoyment of this great game is not spoiled for others.

Q.—How would you play this combination a) for four tricks, or b) for three tricks?

Dummy

A K 9 8

You

J 3

Entries to either hand are plentiful.—T. Jacobs, Broox, N.Y.

A.—Strangely enough, you play the same way for three or four tricks. To make all four tricks, you must find your left-hand opponent with either the Q-10 here or Q-10-x. So lead the jack and, if it gets covered, win 10 dummy and return to your hand to repeat the finesse, this time for the ten.

Playing for three tricks, you need to find LHO with either the queen or the ten. Run the jack and, if it loses, return to your hand and then finesse the one. This has a 76 percent chance of winning three tricks.

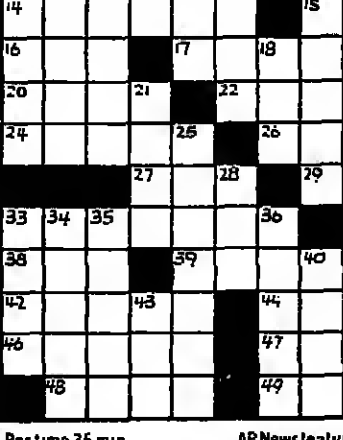
## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1. Ranger
7. Gaffer's warning
11. Small intestine
12. Bitter
14. Peaceful
15. Transistor
16. Lively French
17. Cuckoo
19. Chemical prefix
20. Constantly
22. Timeless
24. Second showing of a film
26. Pitching statistic
27. Canine monkey
29. Facing a glacial field
33. Uneasy
37. Writer Gardner
38. Grape
39. Self-admiring
41. Bronze coin
42. Fairy
44. Woman of
46. Up
47. Work out
48. Large knife

DOWN

3. Sails jacket
4. Quixote
5. Essayist
6. Mother-of-pearl
7. Agriculturist
8. Edible tuber
9. Fortification
10. Heather
13. Seethe
18. Shoshonean
21. Corrosion
23. Reckon
25. Artlessness
28. Herb eve
30. Sage
31. Floss
32. Soap-frame bars
33. Form: Buddhism
34. Misfortunes
35. Britisher
36. Duck
40. New star
43. Bowstring
45. Mythical lance



Par time 35 min. AP Newsfeatures 2/16

## YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

1. Rejoinder
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46. Rejoinder
47. Rejoinder
48. Rejoinder

# JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

## JORDAN TELEVISION

- Channel 3 & 6:**
- 6:00 Quran
  - 6:15 Cartoons
  - 6:30 Little house on the prairie
  - 6:50 News in Arabic
  - 7:00 News in Arabic
  - 7:30 Arabic programme
  - 8:30 Arabic series
  - 8:50 Reportage
  - Channel 6:**
  - 7:30 News in Hebrew
  - 7:45 Filler
  - 8:30 Upbeat line
  - 8:10 Bestsellers
  - 10:00 News in English
  - 10:15 Movie of the week

## RADIO JORDAN

- 7:00 Morning show
- 7:30 News bulletin
- 8:00 Morning show
- 10:00 News headlines
- 10:30 Morning show
- 11:30 Happy journey
- 11:30 Signing off
- 12:00 News headlines
- 12:30 Pop session
- 13:00 News summary
- 13:05 Pop session
- 14:00 News bulletin
- 14:30 Special feature
- 15:00 Concert hour
- 16:00 Pop session
- 17:00 Country music
- 17:30 Pop session
- 18:00 News summary
- 18:05 Jumping jack flash
- 18:30 News bulletin
- 18:40 News reports
- 19:30 Signing off

## EMERGENCIES

- Doctors:**
- Amman: Foad Jaber (71234)
  - Yarmouk: Youssef (30722)
  - Irbid: Abdul Razzaq (2079)
  - Zarqa: Mubashir Hijazi (21570)
  - Tel Sheva: Venecia (44584)
  - Najaf (23038)
  - Al Hussein City (33273)
  - Pharmacies:**
  - Amman: Sabagh (23157)
  - Salem (36730)
  - Qada (21570)
  - 5th circle (41112)
  - Not received
  - Zarqa: Adnan

## BBC RADIO

- 5:00 News: 24 Hours
- 5:30 Sarah Ward
- 5:45 World Today
- 6:00 News: Press Review
- 6:30 Banners and Bonnets
- 7:00 News: 24 Hours
- 7:30 Sarah Ward
- 7:45 Cider with Rosie
- 8:00 News: Reflections
- 8:15 Music of Two Cities
- 8:30 Farthing World
- 9:00 News: Press Review
- 9:15 World Today
- 9:30 Financial News
- 9:45 Wales and the Welsh
- 10:00 London's Musical
- 10:30 Village Comedy
- 11:00 News: News about Britain
- 11:15 Schenkel Plays Beethoven
- 11:30 Business Matters
- 12:00 Radio Newsreel
- 12:15 Top Twenty
- 12:45 Sports Round-up
- 13:00 News: 24 Hours
- 13:30 New Ideas
- 13:40 Book Choices
- 13:45 The Pleasure's Yours
- 14:30 Talkabout
- 15:00 Radio Newsreel
- 15:15 Outlook
- 16:00 News: Commentary
- 16:15 Circumstantial Evidence
- 16:45 World Today
- 17:00 News: Book Choice
- 17:15 John Peel
- 17:45 Sports Round-up
- 18:00 News: News about Britain
- 18:30 Take it or Leave it
- 19:00 Outlook: News Summary
- 19:30 Stock Market Report
- 19:45 The Dunching Masters
- 20:00 News: 24 Hours
- 20:30 A Jolly Good Show
- 21:15 Paperbacks
- 21:30 Business Matters
- 22:00 News: World Today
- 22:25 Financial News
- 22:35 Book Choice: Reflections
- 22:45 Sports Round-up
- 23:00 News: Commentary
- 23:15 Merchant Navy
- 23:30 Top Twenty

## VOICE OF AMERICA

- 03:00 The Breakfast Show: 03:00, 04:00, 05:00 and Reports, VOA Current News Summary, 03:30, 04:30 and 05:30 GMT: An informal presentation of popular music with feature reports and interviews, answers to listeners' questions, Science Digest
- 17:00 News Roundup, Reports, Accidents, Optimum Analysis, News Summary
- 17:30 Dateline
- 18:00 Special English News
- 18:30 News Summary, Reports, Accidents, Optimum Analysis, News Summary
- 19:30 VOA Magazine, American Science, Cultural, Letters
- 20:30 Special English News: Music USA (Ruz)
- 20:45 VOA World Report: News ... newsmakers' voices ... correspondents' reports ... background features ... media comments ... news analyses.

## AMMAN AIRPORT

- Arrivals:**
- 5:45 Damascus (SAA)
  - 7:40 Cairo (EAT)
  - 8:00 Doha, Kuwait
  - 8:00 Bangkok, Bahrain
  - 8:15 Kuwait (KAC)
  - 8:15 Damascus
  - 8:30 Beirut
  - 8:40 Riyadh (SDI)
  - 9:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi
  - 17:00 Cairo
  - 17:00 London
  - 18:40 Beirut (MEA)
  - 20:35 Amsterdam (KLM)
  - 24:30 Rome (AZ)
  - 02:25 Ravalpindi (BA)
  - 6:00 Damascus, Munich, Frankfurt (LH)
  - 8:30 Damascus (SAA)
  - 7:00 Beirut
  - 8:30 Cairo (EAT)
  - 9:15 Kuwait (KAC)
  - 11:00 Riyadh (SDI)
  - 11:30 Athens, Madrid
  - 11:30 Cairo
  - 11:30 Rome, New York
  - 12:00 Paris, London
  - 19:30 Baghdad
  - 01:15 Dubai (AZ)
  - 03:25 London (BA)

## CULTURAL CENTRES

- American Centre (USIS) Tel. 41520
- British Council Tel. 36147-8
- French Cultural Centre Tel. 37009
- Geetha Institute Tel. 41993
- Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 44203
- Amman Municipal Library Tel. 38111

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Ambulance (government) Tel. 75111
- Civil defence rescue Tel. 34501-4
- Fire headquarters Tel. 22590
- Firefight, fire police Tel. 19
- Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) Tel. 38281-2
- Municipal water service (emergency) Tel. 37111-3
- Police headquarters Tel. 28141
- Najaf roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help Tel. 21111, 37777
- Airport information (AIA) Tel. 85205

NGE 007 & 13007

## JACK MEAL

Restaurants for breakfast and light snacks, home, lunch or dinner. Amman, First Circle, 21083, Jabel Al Luweid, Hawuz Circle, Tel. 30446. Al Hussein, near Jerusalem, Tel. 21781. In Zarqa and Irbid.

## STEAKHOUSE

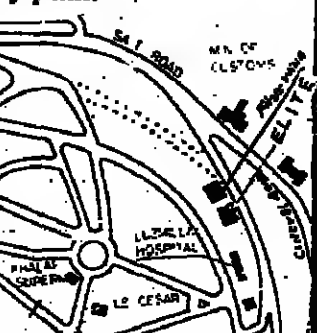
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# Vance warns Congress about partial denial of M.E. arms package

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 (R). — U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance has warned Congress against any partial rejection of the Carter administration's \$4.8 billion aircraft sales package to three Middle East countries. But he sidestepped questions on what the administration's response would be if Congress halted plane sales to Saudi Arabia and Egypt but allowed Israel's purchase to go ahead.

In the face of repeated expressions of concern about the sales by members of the House of Representatives, International Relations Committee, Mr. Vance insisted that they would aid movement towards peace in the Middle East. Asked how the administration would view partial disapproval of the sale by Congress, or disapproval of all three parts of it, Mr. Vance said: "Partial rejection I find unacceptable." He quickly added that total rejection would also be unacceptable.

The administration wants to sell 60 advanced F-15 fighters to Saudi Arabia, 50 of the shorter range F-5E fighter-bombers to Egypt, and

F-15s and 75 F-16 fighter-bombers to Israel.

The deals can be vetoed by Congress and several committee members indicated that they would try to bar the sale to Saudi Arabia.

Critics of the sales to Egypt and Saudi Arabia questioned the timing at a period when the outcome of Middle East peace talks was uncertain, saying the deals would introduce a new and unsettling factor into the negotiations.

They voiced scepticism about claims that the sales would advance the peace process and expressed fears that Saudi Arabia would re-export its aircraft or use them against

Israel in another war. Asked if the administration would cancel the sale to Israel if Congress voted to bar the Egyptian and Saudi Arabian deals, Mr. Vance would only say that the sales were being submitted to Congress as a package.

## Pressing needs cited

He said each of the three Middle East nations had told the United States it had pressing needs for the aircraft that had to be met now. Israel, he said, had asked that a decision be made before its Defence Minister, Ezer Weizman, visits Washington on March 1.

Mr. Vance said the sales would give the three countries self-confidence to move forward in the peace process. He said the administration had concluded that the deals would not change the basic military balance in the region and should not be seen as putting pressure on Israel.

The secretary of state also said Saudi Arabia made it clear it understood that there could be no re-export or transfer of its aircraft without U.S. permission.

Mr. Vance warned that congressional rejection of the package would harm the U.S. role as a trusted intermediary in the Middle East dispute. If the package were taken apart, he said, it would further distort the military balance which existed in the area.

The secretary of state made his appearance before the International Relations Committee to explain the administration's \$14 billion foreign aid programme.

# Death toll in Turkish political violence reaches 61

ISTANBUL, Turkey, Feb. 22 (AP). — The interior minister has told parliament that 61 persons have been killed in political violence this year. "Law and order is the most immediate question" confronting the government, said Minister Irfan Ozaydinli.

Ozaydinli said 48 persons have been arrested in connection with the deaths. In a review of violence since the government of Premier Bulent Ecevit was sworn in, he said a total of 13 bank robberies took place and three of the bandits were arrested. The minister linked the holdups to political unrest.

He said there were 294 bombings, resulting in the death of one person and injury to 71. The figure marked a considerable increase in bomb attacks aimed at party offices and property, banks, private apartments and professional associations.

The minister pledged to "destroy dissension at its roots."

"We are resolved to utilize all state means to fight against armed subversion threatening the survival of the nation," he said.

# Ogaden villagers say their life is easier under the rule of Somalia

By David Storey

MADAWEIN, Ethiopia, (R). — The hot desert sun glistened through the leaves and thorns of the acacia tree, its boughs bent to the ground to form a canopy of shade and the central meeting place for this Ogaden village.

The villagers, all ethnic Somalis, squatted or stood around.

Some carried Soviet-made automatic rifles.

Adam Kalimleh, the leader of the community, prodded his walking stick into the dirt for emphasis. "We would pay anything the WSLF asked of us. We give them everything we can," he said.

The WSLF, the Western Somali Liberation Front, is the indigenous guerrilla organisation whose forces are engaged in a savage war with Ethiopian troops to control the Ogaden, an area of scrubby thorn trees, rocks and sand in southeast Ethiopia.

The ethnic Somali nomads who trek across the region with their herds of camels, sheep and goats had been ruled from Addis Ababa since the end of the last century, but last year WSLF forces ousted Ethiopian troops from their garrisons, and the villages came into the hands of the Somalis.

Madawein, about 10 kms. inside the frontier and about

80 kms. west of Somalia's northern regional capital Hargeisa, is typical of these settlements.

Their newly-gained independence from Ethiopia is, however, precarious because the Addis Ababa forces, backed up by sophisticated Soviet jets, tanks and artillery, have mounted a counter-offensive in the north which threatens to sweep back over the Ogaden.

## Life easier with Somalis

Life for the 700 people living in Madawein, according to Mr. Kalimleh, has been easier since Somali forces took control of the region.

"We feel more secure than before, we get regular food supplies, our children go to school and learn the Somali script and we can move about freely," he said.

Not that the Ethiopians were ever-present. The nearest garrison was at Harshin, about 40 kms. away to the west.

But they made periodic visits, and the old man said, they stopped the nomads from wandering back and forth across the border, dictated what the children could learn and collected taxes.

"We were forced to sell animals to pay tax on the vegetation our animals ate," he said, speaking Somali.

Mr. Kalimleh, wearing the traditional bogsuntay — a cot-

ton skirt — an embroidered loose shawl and an orange cloth wrapped around his head to keep off the sun, pointed at a blackboard and some small wooden boards lying by the tree.

## Somali language now taught

On the blackboard were chalked lines of the Somali language in the Roman script introduced into Somalia in the last few years.

On the narrow boards, about the length of a man's arm, were written sections of the Koran in Arabic script.

The children of the village came twice a day to the trees, the site of all communal meetings. They copied out the Arabic characters in chalk and were taught the written Somali language.

"The Ethiopians did not interfere with our teaching of the Koran, but it was a crime to teach the Somali script," Mr. Kalimleh said.

He said they encouraged the learning of Amharic, the official language of Ethiopia, and he added that he had been fined three months of his salary as village leader — equivalent to about \$50 a month — for refusing to learn it.

The villagers had used both Somali and Ethiopian currencies in their commercial transactions, though within pastoral communities like this one

money has only a small role to play.

## Villagers count casualties

Over a breakfast of this goat and camel liver, njera — a maize bread — and camel milk, eaten sitting on patterned mats of woven grass at tree bark, Mr. Kalimleh and other villagers spoke of the casualties of the war. Hassan Ibrahim, and a man with bright orange na dye in his white beard, said three of his sons had been killed in the last two months. "They all died somewhere near Harar," he said.

Harar, the ancient walled city commanding a pass through the Ahmar mountains to the north, has been the centre of some of the fiercest fighting in the seven months of war.

Mr. Hassan and the others were reluctant to say how many young men had gone from the village to take part in the fighting. "The WSLF would not like that," he said.

There were many young men and men of fighting age ungrudging around the tree, but it was clear that a large number had gone.

Mr. Kalimleh said most of the village men had been captured from the Ethiopians and were resolved to fight against the Ethiopian counter-attack.

# Muhammad Ali has a brand new title

DACCA, Bangladesh, Feb. 22 (AP). — Muhammad Ali, who is no longer heavyweight boxing champion, has a new title: Honorary Bangladesh Consul in Chicago.

Ali carried a Bangladesh passport, symbolic of his new title, as he left here Wednesday.

## Palestinians say Israelis killed in 2 operations

BEIRUT, Feb. 22 (R). — Palestinian commandos last night said they have killed or wounded a number of Israelis in two operations in Israel and the occupied West Bank during the past few days.

The Palestine news agency Wafa said the commandos yesterday planted time bombs under gas reservoirs at a building used for police interrogation in Acre. The blasts set fire to the building, destroyed all its contents and injured an undetermined number of Israeli policemen, Wafa added.

It said the commandos ambushed a military truck in Nabulus, on the West Bank, on Friday evening with automatic weapons and hand grenades, killing or wounding all the occupants.

day following a five-day visit.

Ali said he intends to build a home in Bangladesh at Cox's Bazaar, reputed to be the world's longest beach.

He plans to spend two months a year there to escape winter weather in the United States and Europe, he said.

Ali was given four-tenths hectare of land as a gift on a visit to Cox's Bazaar Monday.

Showing reporters his Bangladesh passport and a Bangladesh flag which he said he plans to fly on his car and atop his Chicago house, Ali said, "I am proud to belong to Bangladesh. Next time I will fight as Muhammad Ali from Bangladesh."

Wednesday morning, Ali inaugurated a boxing stadium here named after him.

# Egyptian's home in Washington is bomb target

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 (R). — A firebomb, believed thrown by a Jewish militant group, damaged the garage of an Egyptian World Bank official yesterday but caused no injuries.

Mr. Saad Fisyawy, 54, his wife and their three children were asleep at the time of the early morning incident. The firebomb broke some glass and burned the outside of the garage door.

A man who said he was with a group called the Jewish Committee for Concern telephoned news agencies to claim responsibility. He said the action was taken to protest against proposed U.S. sales of jet fighters to Egypt.

The State Department issued a statement afterwards condemning the action, which followed a similar incident last week in which a can of petrol was set on fire outside the front door of another Egyptian World Bank official, Mr. Hussein Mustafa.

The so-called Jewish Committee for Concern also claimed responsibility for that incident.

# U.S. stresses need for M.E. oil security

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 (R). — U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown has served notice that the United States intends to assure the production of vital Middle East oil for itself and its allies in Europe and Asia.

In perhaps the strongest words yet on the subject by a Carter administration cabinet officer, Mr. Brown said that because of the importance on oil, the security of the Middle East could not be separated from that of the United States and its allies.

"We intend to safeguard the production of oil and its transportation to consumer nations without the interference by hostile powers," the defence secretary told a meeting earlier this week of the World Affairs Council in Los Angeles.

In his prepared address to the private group, a text of which was released here, Mr. Brown noted that Japan imported 80 per cent of its oil from the Middle East.

He said that despite recent emphasis on improving U.S. forces in Europe and the planned withdrawal of American ground troops from South Korea over the next five years, the United States would remain a major force in the Pacific.

A large area of West Africa has been hit by drought again and crops have been ruined. So far the situation is not as serious as in the disaster of five years ago but it is estimated by the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation that at least 200,000 tons of food will be needed to meet shortages.

By Jonathan Derrick

ILORIN, Nigeria — Drought has hit the savanna lands of West Africa again, just five years after the last disaster. Crops have been ruined and food is short.

The Director General of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation, Dr. Edouard Saouma, has said the harvest failures seemed less serious this time but that the affected countries would still need an estimated 200,000 tons of food to meet the shortages.

The affected countries are many of those in the northern savanna climatic and vegetation zone stretching from Senegal to Chad. The savanna grasslands cover much of the area of West Africa south of the Sahara Desert. The northern savanna, which has suffered in the recent drought, lies north of about 10 degrees N. as far as the desert, in the republics of Senegal, the Gambia, Mauritania, Mali, Upper Volta, Niger, Chad, and the northern parts of Ghana and Nigeria.

The most northerly zone of all in the savanna is the Sahel, roughly between 14 degrees and 18 degrees N. This word Sahel became a household one in the great drought of 1973-74. Unfortunately it may soon be in the news again as the need for outside aid mounts.

The Sahel is the zone which, because of its low rainfall, is

mostly used for nomadic livestock breeding; the Fulanis, found all over West Africa, and other herding peoples take cattle into the Sahel in the rains for pasture, then south again to more fertile areas in the dry season each year.

As in 1972-74, the drought has hit the Sahel and the agricultural savanna zones, highly important for farming on which millions of people depend.

Gambia declared a drought emergency even during the 1977 rains, when it was clear that they would not be sufficient. The official reserve stores of rice were used to feed people in stricken areas while aid was sought from FAO.

The World Food Programme of the FAO promptly gave initial aid for two months' immediate needs. The groundnut crop on which the country depends was affected.

Senegal, Gambia's neighbour, has been severely hit in some areas. The damage may be less than in 1972-74, when Senegal was a major drought victim, but its extent seems uncertain.

One report says there is severe crop damage in the valley of the River Senegal and the area between the river mouth and the capital Dakar, but the seriousness of the drought in Gambia suggests it may be similar in adjacent parts of Senegal.

Certainly the north of Senegal at least, with just half the normal rainfall, is suffering, with a far reduced crop of sorghum, a vital savanna cereal. Relief distribution has started.

## Hard-hit regions

The FAO chief said the other hard-hit regions were Mauritania, parts of Mali and Upper Volta, and the Cape Verde Islands. Mauritania is almost all desert or Sahel, and thus very vulnerable to reduced rainfall in its small farming areas, as the earlier crisis showed.

Mali has a much larger agricultural area and may be suffering less now, but it is among the world's poorest countries and is bound to feel the effects of drought in any large part of its area.

Upper Volta, another large and very poor savanna country — mostly not Sahelian — has begun emergency imports of maize and rice because of crop failures. And the situation is as bad, or worse, across the border in northern Ghana.

Agriculture in Ghana's Upper Region has never recovered from the 1973-74 drought. Indeed, reports suggest that rains have never been good there since then, and the poverty of the people has worsened, so that the new bad rainy

season of 1977 has made things critical. The British relief agency Oxfam has made a report on this crisis and the British government has started sending aid.

The biggest savanna-Sahel-Saharan countries, and the ones worst hit in 1972-74, are Niger and Chad. Niger, which like Mauritania has only a relatively small agricultural area, is reported to have been hit.

Chad had major harvest failures in 1976, which led to an internationally-aided relief effort. There are reports of drought again now.

How is it that these countries' troubles seem never to cease? The simple explanation is that all farming and stock-breeding depend on annual rains, and once again these have been inadequate.

In 1972 rains were suddenly far below the average. In many areas they had been below it for some years before then, but generally there was a big fall in 1972 which led to the death of millions of cattle for lack of water and pasture.

The rainfall in 1973 was even worse than in 1972. Agriculture was thus much harder hit in that year, and the emergency aid operation coordinated by FAO through its Office for Sahelian Relief Operations (OSRO) in Ouagadougou, Upper Volta, had to go on. In spite of all the efforts, 1974 was in fact the worst famine year.

But then nature came to the rescue. The rains were good from Dakar to Abeche, up to the desert borders. There were abundant harvests, rivers and wells filled up again, cattle put on weight — everything improved.

The theories of a permanent climatic change seemed confounded.

## Unpredictable weather

In fact the climate remains totally unpredictable. Every year rainfall is very varied, even though the savanna rains all follow the same wind pattern, — generally was a bad year, and 1973 was a bad year, and 1974 was very good.

In 1975 rainfall was much less over the savanna generally than in 1974. Worse damage was caused then by rats and insect pests than by drought. The savanna-wide rat plague was thought to be due to the death of many wild cats, which had previously kept rat numbers down in the drought. The insects struck particularly in Niger and northern Nigeria: grasshoppers and aphids brought a virus fatal to those countries' groundnuts.

Niger had a major food crisis again in 1975, and outside aid had to be sent. Mali's recovery from the 1972-74 disaster has been spectacular, at least in agriculture. Food crops, cotton and groundnuts have been produced in greater quantities than before 1972.

Niger and northern Nigeria had good cropping seasons in 1976. In Niger the vital cereal crops, millet and sorghum, reached production levels not seen since 1969. The groundnut crop was up to 125,000 tons, three times as much as in 1975.

Chad, however, had its big setback in 1976, when Niger recovered. There has been no

even pattern in rain in the savanna but the drought is thought likely to have spread all over the area hit four years ago.

The long delay of governments of savanna countries in admitting the extent of the disaster and requesting help, which caused concern in 1974, has not occurred this time; aid has been sought from the rains are over.


That these countries are just as vulnerable to drought is not surprising. Five years' little time to arrange for such facilities as increased storage facilities to provide aid in such disasters or better aids to help transport of drought relief among other goods.

The criticism made in previous crisis of the excess attention paid to cash crops particularly groundnuts in Niger and the Gambia, and cotton in Chad, had some foundation as output of those crops actually rose while food crops were lost, and food crop farmers have certainly received attention in at least those three countries. But, again, five years is too short a time for countries utterly dependent financially on those crops make sweeping changes.

So many livestock died in 1972-73 that there cannot be so many at risk in the drought, but herdsmen have been hit again and once more they and thousands of others in the savanna lands need the world's help.

In many drought-hit areas local food stocks must be running out if they have not done so already. Food is needed right now.

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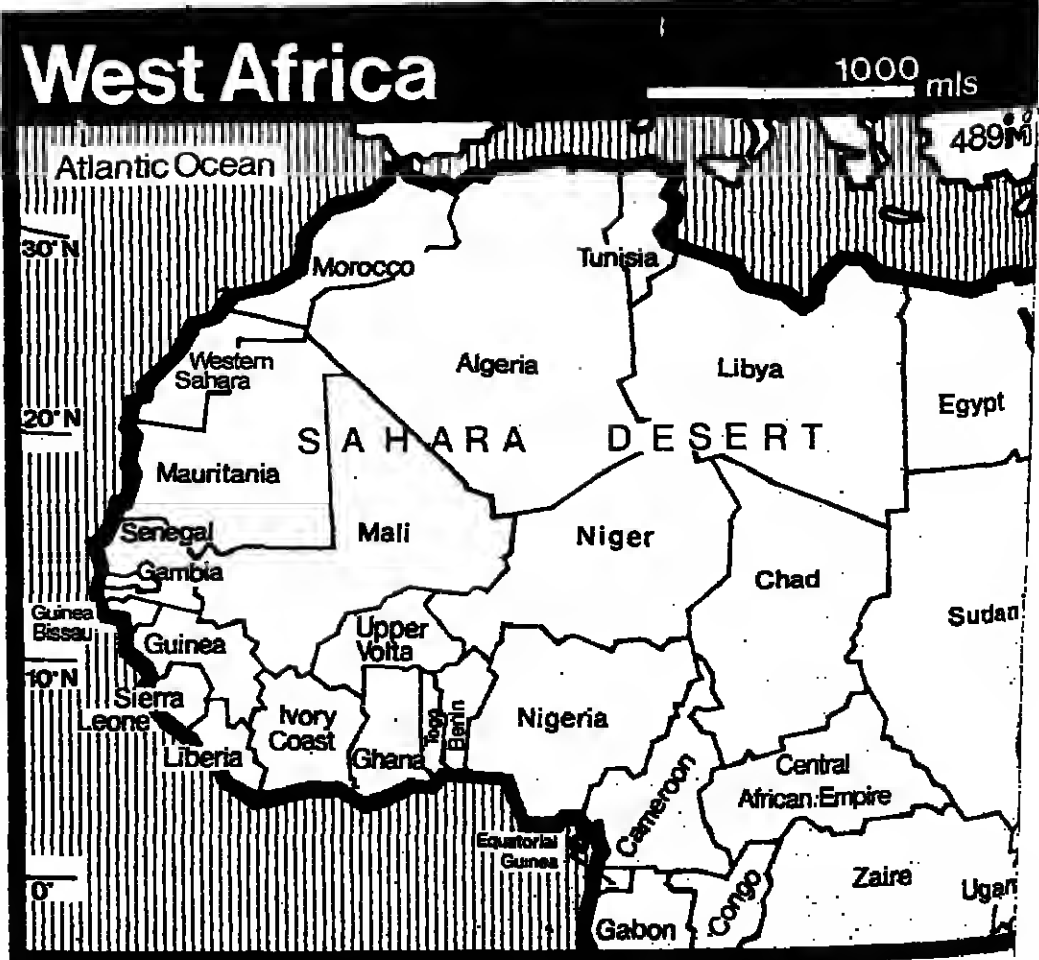
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